

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1 - 17 (canceled)

Claim 18 (currently amended): A method of determining resource placement, comprising:

determining a set of business objectives ~~plurality of assessment criteria~~ for assessing each of a plurality of candidate locations for resource placement ~~placing resources for a product~~;

—developing one or more objective measurements for each business objective;

—performing value chain analyses related to the set of business objectives, thereby determining what resources will potentially improve the analyzed value chain;

—developing cost factors for costs of placing the determined resources in the candidate locations;

creating a product profile for the product, the product profile comprising an importance value assigned to each of a first plurality of the assessment criteria and to each of a second plurality of the assessment criteria, the first plurality pertaining to local skills for the product and the second plurality pertaining to a marketplace of the product;

creating a geography profile for each of the candidate locations, each geography profile comprising a score assigned to each of the first plurality of the assessment criteria and to each of the second plurality of the assessment criteria, each score in each of the geography profiles assigned to indicate how well the candidate location meets the assessment criterion to which the score is assigned;

using computer-readable program code executed by a computer to programmatically compute a skills gap score for each of the candidate locations, further comprising:

20 computing a plurality of skills gap values for the candidate location by subtracting,
21 for each of the first plurality of the assessment criteria, the score assigned to the assessment
22 criterion in the geography profile for the candidate location from the importance value assigned to
23 the assessment criterion in the product profile; and

24 summing, for each of the candidate locations, each of the computed skills gap
25 values to yield the skills gap score for the candidate location;

26 using computer-readable program code executed by the computer to programmatically
27 compute an opportunity gap score for each of the candidate locations, further comprising:

28 computing a plurality of opportunity gap values for the candidate location by
29 subtracting, for each of the second plurality of the assessment criteria, the importance value
30 assigned to the assessment criterion in the product profile from the score assigned to the
31 assessment criterion in the geography profile for the candidate location; and

32 summing, for each of the candidate locations, each of the computed opportunity
33 gap values to yield the opportunity gap score for the candidate location; and

34 using computer-readable program code executed by a computer to programmatically
35 compute a value for placing the resources in each of the candidate locations using the business
36 objectives, according to the developed objective measurements, and the developed cost factors;
37 further comprising:

38 determining an importance value for a first plurality of the business objectives;

39 determining, for a second plurality of the business objectives, a location-specific
40 score for each of the candidate locations that reflects how well the candidate location meets the
41 second plurality of business objectives;

_____ using the location-specific scores and corresponding ones of the importance values
to compute a plurality of gap values for each of the candidate locations; and
_____ for each of the candidate locations, using the computed gap values and the
developed cost factors to yield the value for placing the resources in the candidate location;
using computer-readable program code executed by the computer to programmatically
select a particular location from among the candidate locations for placing the resources, based on
the programmatically-computed value for placing the resources in skills gap score for each of the
candidate locations and the programmatically-computed opportunity gap score for each of the
candidate locations[[]], and
_____ assigning the determined resources to the programmatically-selected particular location.

Claim 19 (canceled)

Claim 20 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 18, wherein the ~~assigned~~
resources are information technology personnel.

Claim 21 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 18, wherein the ~~assigned~~
resources comprise monetary investments in the particular location.

Claims 22 - 27 (canceled)

Claim 28 (currently amended): A system for assigning resources, comprising:

2 a computer comprising a processor and a memory;
3 a plurality of assessment criteria, stored in the memory, set of business objectives for
4 assessing each of a plurality of candidate locations for resource placement placing resources for a
5 product;
6 ~~one or more objective measurements for each business objective;~~
7 ~~results of value chain analyses performed related to the set of business objectives; the~~
8 ~~results usable for determining what resources will potentially improve the analyzed value chain;~~
9 ~~cost factors for costs of placing the determined resources in the candidate locations;~~
10 a product profile for the product, the product profile stored in the memory and comprising
11 an importance value assigned to each of a first plurality of the assessment criteria and to each of a
12 second plurality of the assessment criteria, the first plurality pertaining to local skills for the
13 product and the second plurality pertaining to a marketplace of the product;
14 a geography profile for each of the candidate locations, each geography profile stored in
15 the memory and comprising a score assigned to each of the first plurality of the assessment criteria
16 and to each of the second plurality of the assessment criteria, each score in each of the geography
17 profiles assigned to indicate how well the candidate location meets the assessment criterion to
18 which the score is assigned; and
19 instructions which are executable on the computer, using the processor, to implement
20 functions comprising:
21 programmatically computing a skills gap score for each of the candidate locations,
22 further comprising:
23 computing a plurality of skills gap values for the candidate location by

subtracting, for each of the first plurality of the assessment criteria, the score assigned to the
assessment criterion in the geography profile for the candidate location from the importance value
assigned to the assessment criterion in the product profile; and
summing, for each of the candidate locations, each of the computed skills
gap values to yield the skills gap score for the candidate location;
programmatically computing an opportunity gap score for each of the candidate
locations, further comprising:
computing a plurality of opportunity gap values for the candidate location
by subtracting, for each of the second plurality of the assessment criteria, the importance value
assigned to the assessment criterion in the product profile from the score assigned to the
assessment criterion in the geography profile for the candidate location; and
summing, for each of the candidate locations, each of the computed
opportunity gap values to yield the opportunity gap score for the candidate location; and
programmatically computing a value for placing the resources in each of the
candidate locations using the business objectives, according to the developed objective
measurements, and the developed cost factors, further comprising:
determining an importance value for a first plurality of the business
objectives;
determining, for a second plurality of the business objectives, a location-
specific score for each of the candidate locations that reflects how well the candidate location
meets the second plurality of business objectives;
using the location-specific scores and corresponding ones of the importance

46 values to compute a plurality of gap values for each of the candidate locations; and
47 _____ for each of the candidate locations; using the computed gap values and the
48 developed cost factors to yield the value for placing the resources in the candidate location; and
49 using the programmatically-computed value to programmatically selecting select-a
50 particular location from among the candidate locations for placing the resources, based on the
51 programmatically-computed skills gap score for each of the candidate locations and the
52 programmatically-computed opportunity gap score for value for placing the resources in each of
53 the candidate locations; thereby enabling assignment of the determined resources for placement in
54 the programmatically-selected particular location.

Claims 29 - 32 (canceled)

1 Claim 33 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 18, wherein programmatically
2 selecting a particular location further comprises selecting the candidate location for which a cost
3 of placing the resources in the candidate location is lowest.

Claim 34 (canceled)

1 Claim 35 (previously presented): The system according to Claim 28, wherein programmatically
2 selecting a particular location further comprises selecting the candidate location for which a cost
3 of placing the resources in the candidate location is lowest.

1 Claim 36 (currently amended): A computer program product for determining resource placement,
2 the computer program product embodied on one or more computer-usable storage media and
3 comprising computer-usable program code for:

4 retrieving a plurality of assessment criteria programmatically computing a value for placing
5 resources in each of a plurality of candidate locations using a set of business objectives for
6 assessing each of [[the]] a plurality of candidate locations for resource placement, according to
7 one or more objective measurements developed for each business objective, and cost factors
8 developed for costs of placing the resources in the candidate locations, the resources determined
9 by performing value chain analyses related to the set of business objectives to identify what
10 resources will potentially improve the analyzed value chain, further comprising: placing resources
11 for a product;

12 creating a product profile for the product, the product profile comprising an importance
13 value assigned to each of a first plurality of the assessment criteria and to each of a second
14 plurality of the assessment criteria, the first plurality pertaining to local skills for the product and
15 the second plurality pertaining to a marketplace of the product;

16 creating a geography profile for each of the candidate locations, each geography profile
17 comprising a score assigned to each of the first plurality of the assessment criteria and to each of
18 the second plurality of the assessment criteria, each score in each of the geography profiles
19 assigned to indicate how well the candidate location meets the assessment criterion to which the
20 score is assigned;

21 programmatically computing a skills gap score for each of the candidate locations, further
22 comprising:

23 computing a plurality of skills gap values for the candidate location by subtracting,
24 for each of the first plurality of the assessment criteria, the score assigned to the assessment
25 criterion in the geography profile for the candidate location from the importance value assigned to
26 the assessment criterion in the product profile; and

27 summing, for each of the candidate locations, each of the computed skills gap
28 values to yield the skills gap score for the candidate location;

29 programmatically computing an opportunity gap score for each of the candidate locations,
30 further comprising:

31 computing a plurality of opportunity gap values for the candidate location by
32 subtracting, for each of the second plurality of the assessment criteria, the importance value
33 assigned to the assessment criterion in the product profile from the score assigned to the
34 assessment criterion in the geography profile for the candidate location; and

35 summing, for each of the candidate locations, each of the computed opportunity
36 gap values to yield the opportunity gap score for the candidate location; and

37 ————— determining an importance value for a first plurality of the business objectives;

38 ————— determining, for a second plurality of the business objectives, a location-specific
39 score for each of the candidate locations that reflects how well the candidate location meets the
40 second plurality of business objectives;

41 ————— using the location-specific scores and corresponding ones of the importance values
42 to compute a plurality of gap values for each of the candidate locations; and

43 ————— for each of the candidate locations, using the computed gap values and the
44 developed cost factors to yield the value for placing the resources in the candidate location; and

programmatically selecting a particular location from among the candidate locations for
placing the resources, based on the programmatically-computed skills gap score for each of the
candidate locations and the programmatically-computed opportunity gap score for value for
placing the resources in each of the candidate locations; for assigning the determined resources.

Claim 37 (canceled)

Claim 38 (previously presented): The computer program product according to Claim 36, wherein
programmatically selecting a particular location further comprises selecting the candidate location
for which a cost of placing the resources in the candidate location is lowest.

Claim 39 (new): The method according to Claim 18, further comprising placing the resources in
the programmatically-selected particular location.